INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.

Dec. 4.—W. Tite, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Mr. H. T. Wright was elected an Associate. A paper was read "On the Foundations of the late Church of St. Bartholomew by the Exchange," by C. R. Cockerell, Esq., shewing the rude but efficient mode of construction adopted by our forefathers, and the masterly judgment and skill with which Sir C. Wren availed himself of the existing ancient foundations in his new structure after the fire. The piers in the east wall, as well as those under the pillars of the nave, were raised upon a mass of well-made concrete, formed of chalk, broken tiles, and stone, pebbles, and lime, cast about a foot deep into the stratum of sound gravel. Where arches were required, as in the east and north wall, the natural soil was left undisturbed, and formed into a rude centering from pier to pier, on which the voussoirs of the arches in chalk were at once placed. From the springing of the piers, the masonry was of a superior kind, the centre, however, being filled in with concrete—the side walls of the church were of a better masonry with upright faces. The tower was built of flint and chalk, with walls of the thickness necessary to resist the action of the bells.

Mr. T. W. Papworth exhibited a volume containing a collection of decorations for a chapel in the Cathedral at Lisbon, made at Rome in 1755. It appears from these drawings that the architect sent his general designs to Rome, and that the details were there filled up by the most eminent decorative artists. The name of Pompeio Battoni, who was to supply some painting of the higher class, occurs among the number. There are designs for the pavements, railings, hangings, and every description of decoration and furniture to make the work complete. The artistical knowledge displayed in these drawings throughout the variety of operations necessary to carry out a work of this kind, and the unity of purpose with which it is brought together and applied, is the principal deficiency in our modern system of architecture.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, LEAMINGTON.

We gave in our last a report of measures then under discussion to secure the continuance of the works during the winter season, and adverted to a requisition for a parish meeting based upon the arguments which naturally occur to men of wise and benevolent views, but we are sorry to state for this week that those views have been any thing but distinct to the vision of a majority of those who had to decide upon granting the supplies. A church-rate has been refused, and we hardly see upon what principle, except to thwart the Vicar, the Rev. Mr. Craig. It is a sad thing, however, if a blundering economy—a jealous and perverse spirit should have been indulged in by persons of influence, the evil effects of which are mainly to fall upon the unoffending poor. The beneficial consequence of keeping employed, during the winter season, a number of labourers and artificers, and distributing the fund of their wages through the healthy channels of the small trader, would have been of direct value equal to the full amount of the rate, and as we respect a man's principles, for principle might have had something to do with the opposition, no principle needed to have been compromised.

The meeting that took place was a long and stormy one, and was characterized by violent and ungentlemanly language, designating it as a *farce*, a *humbug!* and the like. The Vicar's meritorious anxiety to give to the town of Leamington *one* public structure of an enduring and appreciable character, and to unite with this effort the true economy of keeping the poor employed, when employment is of most consequence to them, is not seconded by the patrons of *lath an' plaster* and the mammon speculating tribe by which he is surrounded. Had it been about a set of dog-kennels or accommodation for grooms and horses for the winter hunt, all these who oppose now, would have been vociferous supporters. We speak thus strongly on a matter in which we have been called to know somewhat of the specialties, at the same time we retreat from prejudging: there may have been causes of which we are not cognizant; but enough is exposed on the broad face of the transaction to prevent us being enamoured of it.

NEW CHURCHES.

Christ's Church, Westminster.—This church has been lately consecrated with the usual ceremonies by the Bishop of London. The sacred edifice occupies the site of the old Broadway Chapel, erected at the expense of Archbishop Laud. The old chapel was a chapel of ease to the Church of St. Margaret; unfortunately it had no funds appropriated to its support, and had fallen into such a state of decay, that in 1841 it was found necessary to take it down. The new church is after a design by Mr. Poynter, and was built by Mr. Higgs. It is built of Kentish ragstone, the windows and doorways being of Bath stone. It is a Gothic building, having a bell-tower or steeple at the north-western angle. This portion of the building is not, however, completed, as the funds have not been sufficient to carry out the full design of the architect; in its present state the tower is about 55 feet in height. The interior of the church is commodious, and in keeping with the exterior; it contains 1,550 sittings.

On Tuesday, the 12th inst., a new district church on the Dicker Common, in the parish of Arlington, Sussex, was consecrated by the Bishop of Chichester, assisted by the Archdeacon of Lewes and many of the neighbouring clergy. This church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, has been built in the course of the present year by voluntary contributions, aided by grants from the Incorporated Society, and the Chichester Diocesan Association. It contains about 300 sittings, all of which are free, and is designed to supply the spiritual wants of a population of about 500 souls, settled of late years in a newly enclosed country, remote from their parish church, and generally in humble circumstances. The Rev. Dr. Warneford has given 500*l.* towards the endowment.

A new church is in course of erection at Dornington Wood, Salop, commenced in February last, and built at the sole expense of his Grace the Duke of Sutherland, from whose estate the stone is brought. The extreme dimensions are 89 feet by 48 feet; the style is early English, and very chaste, consists of nave, chancel, and transepts, porch, &c., bell and stair turrets; the roofs are open, and have a good effect from the gallery in the west end; the inside is fitted up with open sittings, the whole of which are free. The architects are Messrs. Scott and Moffatt, the contractors Messrs. Cobb, Newport.

Mrs. Shepherd, of Amport, Andover, whose munificence in building churches, &c., is well known, has intimated to the rector of Walcot her intention of building one of the contemplated alms-houses on Beacon-hill, at her own cost, and dedicating it to the memory of her late husband, the Rev. Dr. Shepherd, D.D., as a token of the great benefit that he derived, under God, from the frequent use of the Bath waters.

A gentleman of about 50,000*l.* per annum in the parish of Wolverhampton, when asked to contribute to Ettingshall Church, excused himself by saying that the mines would be worked out *in about seventy years*, and then the people would move, and the church would be of no use!—*First Report of the Midland Mining Commission*, p. 134.

Holy Trinity Church.—We are glad to hear that the guarantee fund of 200*l.* required for the improvement of the interior of this sacred edifice has been raised within about 30*l.* We sincerely hope, under these pleasing circumstances, that the work will speedily be commenced. There should be no unnecessary delay.

Lynn.—The Town Council agreed last Wednesday to grant the committee, as a site for the new church, a piece of ground on the Blackfriars'-road, in lieu of the site offered to them a short time since.

St. Stephen's Church.—The repairs of the damages done by the recent storm to this building are nearly completed.

J. H. Errington, Esq., who is lay-rector of Ashbourn, in Derbyshire, finding the committee for re-pewing the church had a deficiency in their funds, lately sent them a check for 285*l.*, the sum expended upon the chancel.

Arrangements are being taken forthwith for the erection of a new church in Heaton Norris, towards which Wilbraham Egerton, Esq., of Tatton Park, has given a site of land and 1,000*l.*

PUBLIC WORKS.

West Bromwich and Birmingham Canal.—A new line of canal has just been completed, of the extent of eight or nine miles, between West Bromwich and Birmingham, at an enormous cost, and the work is certainly superior to any thing of the kind in the kingdom—double towing paths and splendid bridges, and locks, thirteen in number; but when preparations were made last week for the opening of the line, it was found that the locks were two feet too short to admit a boat.—[We extract this paragraph from a country paper, without being perfectly certain as to the fact stated with regard to the shortness of the locks, upon which we remain incredibie. It would be such an instance of engineering blundering, as fortunately for the credit of our country is rarely witnessed among Englishmen. We have heard, however, that at the time of the railway from Dartmoor to Plymouth, by which the granite is conveyed, the engineer had so far miscalculated as to have run out a little above Plymouth at a level considerably above his purpose, and that the work had to be recommenced a considerable distance back to rectify the costly blunder. The place at which the error was detected is called "Stewart's Folly," Stewart, we think, being the name of the engineer.—Ed.]

The Commissioners of Sewers for the county of Nottingham are directing the improvement of the course of the river Smite, in the course of which several bridges will have to be built, and others renewed, altered, and repaired.

Bridlington.—Messrs. Walker and Burgess are employed to direct the removal of the present pier, and construct a new one, to effect the enlargement of the harbour. The improvement will be an important one for the interests of Bridlington.

RAILWAYS.

Railway Projects.—Among the numerous notices of application to Parliament next session for Railway Acts, the *Railway Times* presents the following list connected with this district:—

EASTERN COUNTIES' AND NORTHERN AND EASTERN RAILWAYS.

For the amalgamation of the Eastern Counties' and Northern and Eastern Railways.

To amend the Eastern Counties' Railway Acts, with power to make a branch to Thetford, &c.

For an extension of the Northern and Eastern Railway from Newport to Thetford and Ely, in connection with the Northampton and Peterborough Railway, and to Wisbech, with power to sell or lease. Signed by "Crowder and Maynard, solicitors, 67, Coleman-street, London."

For leave to deviate on the Newport (Northern and Eastern) Extension line.

A branch railway "to commence by a junction with the Hertford and Ware branch of the Northern and Eastern Railway, at or near the Hertford station of the said branch railway, in the parish of Saint John, Hertford, in the county of Hertford, and to terminate in a certain field adjoining the turnpike road from Hitchin to Stevenage, in the parish of Hitchin, in the county of Hertford." No signature to the notice.

Branches from the Northern and Eastern Railway to Tottenham and Edmonton. No signature.

For the Norwich and Brandon Railways. Signed, "Parker and Hayes, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields."

For the Eastern Union Railway. Mr. Cobbold's and Mr. Locke's scheme for extending the Eastern Counties' Railway eid Ipswich.

Mr. Braithwaite's branch to Harwich. Signed "John Duncan, London; Sparling, Turner, and Deane, Colchester."

Mr. Attwood's Harwich branch. Signed, Bourdillon and Son, Great Winchester-street, London, solicitors for the Bill."

Railway from Thetford to Cambridge. No signature.

For the Stratford branch line to the Thames in connection with the Eastern Counties' and Northern and Eastern Railways. Signed by "Stokes, Hollingworth, Tyerman and John-

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